

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 DURBAN 00580 271433Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 DHA-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 EB-08 COME-00

/088 W

-----087260 271435Z /40

R 271222Z AUG 77

FM AMCONSUL DURBAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2604

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DURBAN 0580

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJ: BUTHELEZI VIEWS ON NAT CONSTITUTIONAL IDEAS

1. SUMMARY: IN DISCUSSION AUGUST 26, CHIEF BUTHELEZI INDICATED THAT HE IS NATURALLY OPPOSED TO EXCLUSION OF AFRICANS FROM PURVIEW OF NEW NAT CONCEPTS BUT IS EQUALLY CONCERNED AT EFFORTS TO DIVIDE AFRICANS INTO "URBAN" AND "HOMELANDS" (I.E., RURAL) CATEGORIES. HE INDICATED HE WILL NOT OPPOSE BLACKS WHO WISH TO PARTICIPATE IN ANY NEW SYSTEM IN THE BELIEF THAT IT MIGHT LEAD TO FURTHER DISPENSATIONS TOWARD AFRICANS LATER ON, BUT THAT IT WOULD BE PROBLEMATIC FOR HIM TO SAY AS MUCH IN PUBLIC. END SUMMARY.

2. CHIEF GATSHA BUTHELEZI DISCUSSED WITH ME HIS VIEWS ON THE NEW NAT CONSTITUTIONAL IDEAS DURING A MEETING EVENING OF AUGUST 26. NOT UNEXPECTEDLY, HE SAID HE REGRETTED THAT VORSTER HAD STOPPED SHORT OF INCLUDING AFRICANS IN THE NEW FRAMEWORK (SUCH AS IT WAS KNOWN TO HIM). THIS WAS WHAT ONE COULD EXPECT, BUT WHAT CURRENTLY CONCERNED BUTHELEZI MORE WAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 DURBAN 00580 271433Z

THE EFFORT BY NATS, AIDED EVEN BY WELL-INTENTIONED WHITE LIBERALS, TO DIVIDE THE AFRICAN COMMUNITY INTO "URBAN" AND "HOMELANDS" (I.E., RURAL) CATEGORIES. BUTHELEZI TERMED THIS A DIVIDE-AND-RULE RUSE AND PART OF THE PROCESS OF AVOIDING MAJORITY RULE. HE STRESSED THAT A MAIN OBJECTIVE OF INKATHA WAS TO DO AWAY WITH THIS DISTINCTION IN AFRICANS' OWN MINDS, EMPHASIZING INSTEAD THEIR ONENESS. HE CONCEDED THAT THE GOING

IN THIS REGARD WAS DIFFICULT SINCE THE SAG AND EVEN LIBERAL WHITES HAD FOR MANY YEARS CATEGORIZED BLACKS IN THIS WAY, TO THE EXTENT THAT MANY OF THE LATTER HAVE DIFFICULTY IN THROWING OFF THE CONCEPT.

3. ASKED WHAT HIS PUBLIC POSTURE WOULD BE TOWARD THE NAT INITIATIVES, BUTHELEZI SAID HE WOULD PREFER MORE DETAILS BEFORE SPEAKING OUT DEFINITELY. HE APPRECIATED THAT A FEW BLACKS (HE MENTIONED J.N. REDDY) SEEMED TO HOPE THERE COULD BE FURTHER STAGES POSSIBLY EXTENDING THE DISPENSATION TO AFRICANS IF THE FIRST STAGE WORKED WELL. BUTHELEZI REMARKED BITTERLY THAT THERE IS NO LONGER TIME IN SOUTH AFRICA TO PLAY SUCH WAITING GAMES. STILL, HE WOULD NOT CRITICIZE SUCH BLACKS AS WISHED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NEW SYSTEM, BUT IT WOULD BE PROBLEMATIC FOR HIM TO SAY THIS IN PUBLIC SINCE IT WOULD BE SEIZED BY HIS ENEMIES AS ONE FURTHER EVIDENCE OF COOPERATION WITH THE SAG SYSTEM.

4. BUTHELEZI MENTIONED THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY THE COLORED LABOR PARTY WHICH WISHED TO MEET URGENTLY WITH HIM ON COORDINATING A RESPONSE TO THE NAT INITIATIVE. (CAPE TOWN 1246 REFERS) BUTHELEZI SAID IT COULD BE "DIFFICULT" FOR HIM TO GET TOGETHER WITH THE LABOR REPRESENTATIVES. WHO, HE UNDERSTOOD, STRONGLY OPPOSED THE NAT IDEAS. WHILE BUTHELEZI WOULD NOT BE DRAWN OUT FURTHER ON THIS, HE GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO BE PUSHED PREMATURELY INTO ANY POSITION AND THAT HE MAY BIDE HIS TIME A BIT BEFORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 DURBAN 00580 271433Z

TAKING A FULL PUBLIC POSITION ON SUBJECT.  
FARBER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REFORM, NEGOTIATIONS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 27-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DURBAN00580  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770310-1171  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** DURBAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770816/aaaaamsw.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** dbef51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1460380  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BUTHELEZI VIEWS ON NAT CONSTITUTIONAL IDEAS  
**TAGS:** PINT, SF, (BUTHELEZI, GATSHA)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbcf://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/dbef51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009